

ELLIS LAWHORNE

John J. Pringle, Jr.
Direct dial: 803/343-1270
jpringle@ellislawhorne.com

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The Honorable Charles L.A. Terreni
Chief Clerk
South Carolina Public Service Commission
PO Drawer 11649
Columbia SC 29211

RE: **Docket No. 2005-57-C, Our File No. 803-10208**

Dear Mr. Terreni:

The Joint Petitioners provide this letter in response to the request of the Chairman at the hearing in this matter last Thursday. Rule 228 of the South Carolina Appellate Court Rules (SCACR) allows the South Carolina Supreme Court to "answer questions of law certified to it by any federal court of the United States or the highest appellate court on an intermediate appellate court of any other state" Thus, it appears that no issue from the current Docket could be "certified" to the Supreme Court.

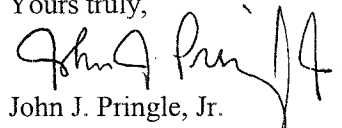
However, Article V, Section 5 of the South Carolina Constitution and Rule 229 of the SCACR give the Supreme Court "original jurisdiction" in certain contexts. It is unclear whether the "extraordinary circumstances" exist such that the Supreme Court would hear this issue outside the context of its appellate jurisdiction. *See Key v. Currie*, 305 S.C. 115, 406 S.E.2d 356 (1991). From the Joint Petitioners' point of view, numerous extraordinary circumstances are present in this Docket, as Thursday's hearing demonstrated clearly.

Further, the Rules of the Supreme Court provide a roadmap for resolution of any complaint (including the instant one) regarding the Rules of Professional Conduct. Rule 413 of the SCACR, entitled "Rules for Lawyer Disciplinary Enforcement," sets forth a procedure by which this issue could reach the South Carolina Supreme Court for determination. This process would allow this issue to be considered in a dispassionate forum.

As the Joint Petitioners have emphasized repeatedly in this Docket, BellSouth has all the rights and remedies set out in the Rules for Lawyer Disciplinary Enforcement, a process which would allow all interested persons to present their views on this topic before the entities tasked to hear these issues.

With kind regards, I am

Yours truly,


John J. Pringle, Jr.

cc: all parties of record
Kerry B. McTigue, Esquire